



U.S. Department of Energy

Office of River Protection

P.O. Box 450
Richland, Washington 99352

0059419

MAY 06 2003

03-ED-065

Mr. Michael A. Wilson, Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
1315 W. Fourth Avenue
Kennewick, Washington 99336

RECEIVED
MAY 16 2003

Dear Mr. Wilson:

EDMC

PROCESS FOR COMPLETING NOTICES OF DEFICIENCY (NOD) FOR RPP-13744,
"SINGLE-SHELL TANK SYSTEM CLOSURE PLAN," REVISION 0

Reference: Ecology letter from J. J. Lyon to J. E. Rasmussen, ORP, "Transmittal of Single-Shell Tank System Closure Plan (RPP-13744, Rev 0) Ecology NOD Comments," dated March 20, 2003.

59063
58489

The U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection (ORP) has reviewed the referenced letter from the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology), and has met with you and your staff on March 27, 2003, regarding the path forward for resolution of the NOD comments on RPP-13744, "Single-Shell Tank System Closure Plan," Revision 0. We would like to extend our appreciation to you and your staff for your continued cooperation and dedication to the goal of accelerating closure of the Single-Shell Tank System.

During the March 27, 2003, meeting, a schedule and process for conducting workshops to resolve NODs was defined. The schedule is reflective of the need for a compressed review time to meet the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order M-45-05H milestone for incorporation of the closure plan into the sitewide permit by April 30, 2004. The review and approval cycle for achieving this milestone is attached.

Categories of NODs, participants from Ecology, the availability of Ecology staff, and the relative difficulty of resolving the NODs were evaluated during the meeting. Based on this evaluation, it was determined that NOD resolution workshops will be scheduled in late April and early May 2003. Separately, a workshop to discuss the environmental risk assessment, that has been developed and that will be included in the closure plan, was also agreed to. A draft schedule for the workshops will be provided to you, for your review and finalization, through electronic mail.

Draft NOD responses from ORP for common categories of comments will be provided to Ecology electronically, at least one week prior to the workshop on the specific categories of NODs. Specific text changes will be provided to Ecology in the informal draft NOD submittal as

MAY 06 2003

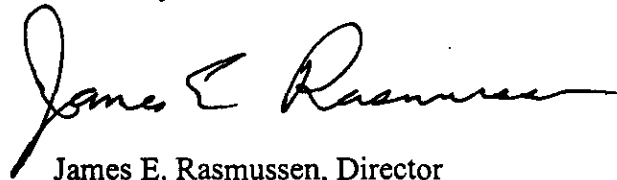
often as possible, if this information is available. However, where this text change has not yet been developed, a general path forward for the NOD resolution will be indicated (e.g., "Accept, text will be written that will incorporate this information") and the NOD will carry over into the second Ecology review period, so that Ecology can see the actual text in redline/strikeout format during their Revision 1 review (see attachment).

We fully anticipate, as we go through this process for the first tank closure plan, we will resolve the majority of the key regulatory issues, hence, minimize the time and effort needed for the review of subsequent tank closure plans. It is suggested that the attached review cycle be considered for standardizing all future tank component closure activity review cycles to be incorporated into the closure plan.

At the end of the April/May 2003 workshop effort, ORP will formally send a completed NOD response table to your office.

If you have any questions, please contact Rick R. McNulty, Environmental Division, (509) 373-9304, or Moses Jarayssi, CH2M HILL Hanford Group, Inc., (509) 372-9242.

Sincerely,



James E. Rasmussen, Director
Environmental Division

ED:WR

Attachment

cc w/o attach:

D. I. Allen, CHG
D. B. Amerine, CHG
E. S. Aromi, CHG
J. W. Badden, CHG
W. T. Dixon, CHG
M. N. Jarayssi, CHG (w/attach)
S. Harris, CTUIR
J. J. Lyon, Ecology
T. Martin, HAB
J. L. Hanson, INNOV
P. Sobotta, NPT
K. Niles, Oregon Energy
P. F. Dunigan, RL
R. Jim, YN
Administrative Record